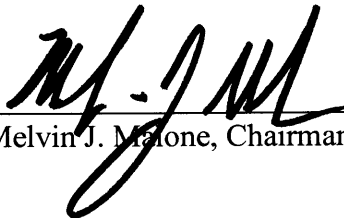


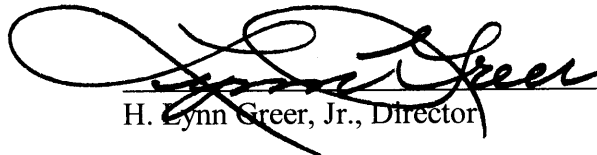
BellSouth filed its Petition for Arbitration on January 25, 2000. On February 10, 2000, US LEC filed an agreed motion requesting a ninety (90) day extension to file its response to BellSouth's Petition and consenting to a ninety (90) day extension of the Authority's nine (9) month deadline for resolving interconnection agreement arbitrations pursuant to section 252((b)(4)(C) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. In support of its motion, US LEC explained that other arbitrations currently pending before the Authority involve issues similar to those presented by BellSouth in the instant Petition. US LEC argued that awaiting a final determination of these other arbitrations could avoid duplicative litigation.

At the February 29, 2000 Authority Conference, the Directors queried BellSouth and verified that there was no objection to US LEC's motion. Having confirmed the agreement of the parties, the Authority voted unanimously to approve the motion.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The agreed motion of US LEC for a ninety (90) day extension of time to file its response to BellSouth's Petition for Arbitration is approved. By consent of the parties, the time provided in 47 U.S.C. § 252((b)(4)(C) for the resolution of the arbitration is also extended for ninety (90) days; and
2. Any party aggrieved with the Authority's decision in this matter may file a Petition for Reconsideration with the Authority within fifteen (15) days from and after the date of this Order.


Melvin J. Malone, Chairman


H. Lynn Greer, Jr., Director


Sara Kyle, Director

ATTEST:


K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary